

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Paul Robert Fletcher
Serial No. :
Filed : December 28, 2001
Title : CASH HANDLING MACHINE

Art Unit : Unknown
Examiner : Unknown

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Amend claims 6, 7, 9, 12 and 13 as follows:

6. A machine as claimed in claim 1, the machine storing float levels for respective cash denominations, each float level representing the amount of cash items of the respective denominations to be stored following a float operation, and being further operable during the float mode to provide a display visible externally of the machine indicating the denominations of cash items for which the current stored level is less than the respective float level.
7. A machine as claimed in claim 1, the machine comprising a further cash store, and being operable in response to a received instruction to discharge cash items from the first-mentioned cash store to the further cash store.

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Francis R. Butler
Signature

Francis R. Butler
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

FOB221-6046001

9. A machine as claimed in claim 8, wherein the machine has a housing preventing access to the further store, but having an unlockable access means which, upon unlocking, permits removal of the further store from the machine.

12. A machine as claimed in claim 8, having means for receiving an instruction issued remotely from the machine for performing said discharging operation.

13. A cash handling machine as claimed claim 8, wherein said first store has a plurality of regions each for storing a respective denomination, and wherein said further store has a region within which multiple denominations are stored.

Add claims 14-18 as follows:

--14. A machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein the machine has a housing preventing access to the further store, but having an unlockable access means which, upon unlocking, permits removal of the further store from the machine.--

--15. A machine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the access means provides, upon unlocking, access to the further store but not to the first store.--

--16. A machine as claimed in claim 15, including means for issuing said instruction in response to unlocking of said access means.--

--17. A machine as claimed in claim 7, having means for receiving an instruction issued remotely from the machine for performing said discharging operation.--

--18. A cash handling machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein said first store has a plurality of regions each for storing a respective denomination, and wherein said further store has a region within which multiple denominations are stored.--

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382001 / WIN0203/J.25286EP

REMARKS

Claims 6, 7, 9, 12 and 13 have been amended to merely remove unnecessary multiple dependencies or to correct improper multiple dependencies. Claims 14-18 have been added, and are based on claims 9-13. No new matter has been added.

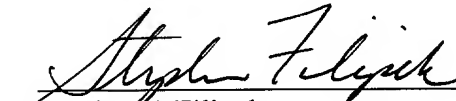
None of the claim amendments have been made for any substantial reason related to patentability. Thus, the applicant asserts that no claims have been amended within the meaning of the *Festo* case.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be examined. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 28 DECEMBER 2001


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Version with markings to show changes made

In the claims:

Claims 6, 7, 9, 12 and 13 have been amended as follows:

6. A machine as claimed in [any preceding] claim 1, the machine storing float levels for respective cash denominations, each float level representing the amount of cash items of the respective denominations to be stored following a float operation, and being further operable during the float mode to provide a display visible externally of the machine indicating the denominations of cash items for which the current stored level is less than the respective float level.
7. A machine as claimed in [any preceding] claim 1, the machine comprising a further cash store, and being operable in response to a received instruction to discharge cash items from the first-mentioned cash store to the further cash store.
9. A machine as claimed in [claim 7 or] claim 8, wherein the machine has a housing preventing access to the further store, but having an unlockable access means which, upon unlocking, permits removal of the further store from the machine.
12. A machine as claimed in [any one of claims 7 to 10] claim 8, having means for receiving an instruction issued remotely from the machine for performing said discharging operation.
13. A cash handling machine as claimed in [any one of claims 7 to 12] claim 8, wherein said first store has a plurality of regions each for storing a respective denomination, and wherein said further store has a region within which multiple denominations are stored.

Add claims 14-18 as follows:

--14. A machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein the machine has a housing preventing access to the further store, but having an unlockable access means which, upon unlocking, permits removal of the further store from the machine.--

--15. A machine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the access means provides, upon unlocking, access to the further store but not to the first store.--

--16. A machine as claimed in claim 15, including means for issuing said instruction in response to unlocking of said access means.--

--17. A machine as claimed in claim 7, having means for receiving an instruction issued remotely from the machine for performing said discharging operation.--

--18. A cash handling machine as claimed in claim 7, wherein said first store has a plurality of regions each for storing a respective denomination, and wherein said further store has a region within which multiple denominations are stored.--

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